Revival of Malaria

4728. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that reappearance of mosquitoes through out the country has resulted in revival of Malaria;

(b) whether Government have conducted any research on Malaria repellants like planting of Marigold flowers or other such measures; if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether inadequate sewerage in cities and towns is one of the factors for reappearance of mosquitoes and revival of Malaria; and

(d) if so, the steps Government have taken do deal with the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) The mosquito nuisance is determined by several factors like unplanned urbanization, physical environment, life style of the people and water-management system. There are several species of the mosquitoes which have different breeding habits. The mosquito for spread of malaria *i.e. 'Anopheles'* usually breeds in clean water. The effective control of mosquito can be achieved by environmental modifications & manipulations. The National Malaria control Programme was started by the Govt, of India in 1953 which was converted to National Malaria Eradication Programme in 1958. There was spectacular reduction of malaria incidence as well as deaths. However, during late 1970's there was resurgence of malaria due to operational, technical and administrative factors. With the introduction of Modified Plan of Operation in 1977, the number of malaria cases declined from 6.4 million to below 2 million in 2002. Since then the number of cases of malaria has remained below 2 million.

(b) Though there are some reports in literature about the insecticidal and repellent activity of the extracts of Tagetus (Marigold), these have not been used/studied as malaria repellent by planting of Marigold flowers and other plants in the country.

There is however a report on a study conducted by scientists from Kenya and Ethiopia on live potted plants including Tagetus (Marigold) tested as mosquito repellent which did not show any significant repellent effect of Tagetus.

(c) and (d) Bad sewerage system cause breeding of *Culex* mosquitoes

but malaria transmitting *Anopheles* mosquitoes do not breed in sewer water.

The Govt, of India has a well defined Programme *viz.* National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme (NVBDCP) for control of malaria in the country adopting strategies which include surveillance, early diagnosis and prompt treatment of cases, sustainable vector control including Indoor Residual Spray with insecticides treated bednets, use of larvivorous fish etc. besides Training & Information, Education and Communication to enlist community involvement. Urban Malaria Scheme is also being implemented in 131 Towns in the country to reduce density of mosquitoes and to prevent spread of malaria.

National Population Policy

4729. SHRI T.S. BAJWA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have reviewed National Population Policy, 2000;

(b) if so, when and the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are aware of a United Nations Report that India's population may cross China's population by 2050; and

(d) if so, what steps Government propose to take to tackle the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The steps being taken by government for population stabilization in the country include-adoption of National Population Policy (NPP), constitution of the National Commission on Population, establishment of the Janasankhya Sthirata Kosh and constitution of an Empowered Action Group (EAG) for focused attention on demographically weaker States. The Reproductive and Child Health (RCH) Programme launched by Government in 1997 for provision of comprehensive reproductive, maternal, child heajth and contraceptive service to the people has reached its 2nd Phase for providing more comprehensive and integrated services.

The Government has recently launched the National Rural Health Mission throughout the country, with special emphasis on 18 States *i.e.* Assam,